

March 9, 1992

Professor A. Kotyk
Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences
Institute of Physiology
Videnska 1083
142 20 Praha
Czechoslovakia

Dear Professor Kotyk:

I have read the report from Professor Giorgio Bernardi on the activities of COGENE from 1989 through 1991 and now send you my comments.

It was gratifying, as one of those who attended the original planning meeting for the establishment of COGENE in 1976 to see that the organization continues to fill an important niche in the biological community. This has been a successful international effort, marked by excellent scientific quality and collegiality. Most happily, COGENE has been free of the political issues that have diminished the effectiveness of HUGO. To a large extent this is because of the serious purpose of COGENE members and the fact that COGENE exists within the context of ICSU.

The report indicates that COGENE is keeping up with developments in biology and, in particular, attending to its charge to consider a variety of the implications of recombinant DNA experiments. The expansion of these implications that have accompanied the rapid progress of molecular genetics have been a challenge, yet we find COGENE addressing current topics in an effective way at its round tables and symposia. Even more impressive is the COGENE commitment to bring the most modern techniques to developing countries. Carrying out theoretical and practical courses in places remote from the world centers of research is a difficult task. COGENE never shirks from this, in spite of the difficulties, and has been an effective instructor.

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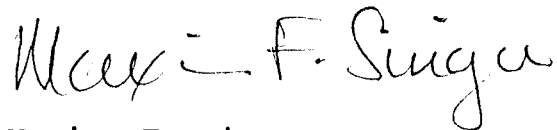
The Observatories
Pasadena, California, and Las Campanas, Chile

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The only suggestion that I would like to make for future reports is to ask that evaluations from students in the courses be provided, or at least summaries, so that the future review panels have an independent assessment of the courses.

With kind regards,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Maxine F. Singer". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Maxine F. Singer

MFS/sb